



June 19, 2019
401 E. Pratt Street, 17th Floor Conference Room
Baltimore
1:00pm-3:00pm
Minutes

Subcabinet Members:

Kelly M. Schulz, Secretary, Department of Commerce, Chair
Jim Rzepkowski, Acting Secretary, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR)
Ben Grumbles, Secretary, Department of Environment (MDE)
Mark Crampton for Pete Rahn, Secretary, Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Robert McCord, Secretary, Department of Planning
Jimmy Rhee, Special Secretary, Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA)
Jim Fielder, Secretary, Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC)
Michael Higgs, Director of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT)
James McKittrick, Director of Legislative and Constituent Services on behalf of Secretary Haddaway
Riccio (DNR)

Guests:

Ben Wu, Deputy Secretary and COO, Department of Commerce
Horacio Tablada, Deputy Secretary, MDE
Mike Morello, Governor's Office of Performance Improvement (GOPI)
Kenrick "Rick" Gordon, Governor's Office of Rural Broadband
Corbett Webb, SDAT
Todd Scott, Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)
Rob O'Connor, MDE
Isaiah Ellis, MHEC
Mike Pantelides, DLLR
Ann Marie Gunning, DLLR
Victor Clark, DLLR
Janice Walker-Emeogo, DLLR
Joseph Griffiths, MDP
Pat Keller, MDP
Sarah Lipkin Sularz, MDP
Julie Woepke, Department of Commerce
Andrea Salizzoni, Department of Commerce
Signe Pringle, Department of Commerce
Kyle McColgan, Department of Commerce
Tom Riford, Department of Commerce
Jack Davis, Department of Commerce
Andrew Sargent, Department of Commerce (call in)
Ryan Snow, Governor's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (call in)

I. Call to Order

Secretary Schulz called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

II. Chair Update

Secretary Schulz provided an update on several Commerce personnel. She introduced newly appointed Assistant Secretaries Signe Pringle, Business Development, and Tom Riford, Marketing and Communications and Tourism, Film and the Arts and Sarah Sheppard, Director, Education and Workforce. Secretary Schulz then reported on the Governor's recent announcement and kick off of the Year of the Woman. Assistant Secretary Riford provided an update on this important initiative to mark the 100th Anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution. (Presentation on file.)

Secretary Schulz announced the upcoming 2019 Governor's Business Summit and encouraged participation among the Subcabinet Agencies.

Assistant Secretary Signe Pringle provided a business development overview of recent wins which included Kite Pharma, Alderson Loop and Cefalu/Capital Seaboard. She highlighted pending announced wins which would add an additional 2,700 jobs, and select new opportunities. (Presentation on file.)

III. Review and approval of April 15, 2019 Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the April 15, 2019 meeting were approved.

IV. Subcabinet Workgroups

a. Customer Service

Mike Pantelides, Executive Director, Office of Small Business Regulatory Assistance, DLLR and Mike Morello, Director, GPOI presented an update on the web traffic to the Governor's feedback questionnaire, surveys after transitions and the Maryland Business Express website. (Presentation on file.)

b. Workforce Development

Ann Gunning, Manager, Office of Workforce Development, Business Solutions Unit, DLLR provided an update on the new registered and youth apprenticeships. She discussed the incumbent worker training funds and the potential to tap Title 1 funds for entrepreneurship training once Federal guidance is received. Ms. Gunning then described the workforce initiatives in support of the Verso, Luke Paper Mill closure. (Presentation on file.)

c. Job Creators

Deputy Secretary and COO Ben Wu, Department of Commerce reported that the job creator list had been updated with input from local economic development directors. He stated it was reviewed by the Deputy Secretaries on the May conference call and was shared with the Regional Resources Teams.

d. Small Business

Corbett Webb, Associate Director, Taxpayer Services, SDAT updated the Subcabinet on the promotion of the Maryland Business Express and Maryland Workforce Expressway websites, whose logos are now on all State Agency websites. He announced the availability of the SDAT training video on the HUB, planning for an interagency events calendar, and the August 26th Small Business Resources Day. (Presentation on file.)

e. Regional Resources Workgroup

Pat Keller, Assistant Secretary and Joe Griffiths, Local Assistance and Training Manager, MDP provided an overview of the Workgroup progress, and statewide reporting topics and opportunities based on the five (5) Regional Teams input. Updates and opportunities by each region – Eastern Shore, Baltimore Metro, DC Metro, Southern Maryland, Western Maryland were presented with participation of the Team Leaders participating.

Mr. Griffiths sought feedback from the Subcabinet on the reporting system and information collected to prepare next steps. It was the consensus of the Subcabinet to continue reporting as submitted, perhaps identifying top two (2) projects or initiatives by Region (s) to work on collectively. As a recurring issue in each Region is inconsistency in the Health Department permitting and inspection process, Secretary Schulz offered to contact the Health Department. (Presentation and handouts on file.)

V. Good of the Order

Secretary Grumbles reported on the importance of engaging business as part of energy policy. He reported the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has finalized a replacement clean power plan that will have a negative impact on Maryland's flexible policy. He noted the importance of embracing renewables.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further discussion and upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45pm.